

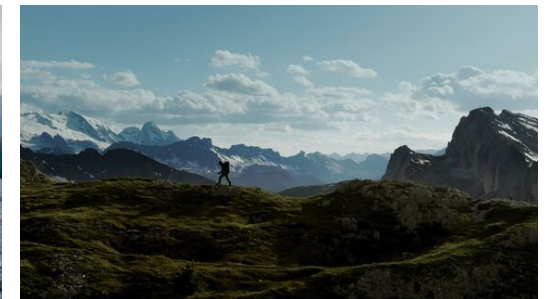
FACTUAL ENTERTAINMENT

METAL DETECTIVE

30 x 52' (ENG, ITA)

Uncovering the hidden truths of history's battles, one relic at a time.

This adrenaline-pumping adventure-drama series takes viewers to the iconic battlegrounds of the First and Second World War. History detective Gibba uses state-of-the-art metal detection to uncover real war relics that have remained buried for decades. Each episode investigates a famous military operation, piecing together the true events of the battle through the artifacts Gibba finds. But this is no ordinary treasure hunt—Gibba faces extreme physical challenges, from scaling mountains to navigating rivers, all while confronting the danger of unexploded bombs and other remnants of war. Metal Detective turns history into a high-stakes adventure, revealing the past in ways never seen before.



Original Title:	Metal Detective
Year:	2021 - 2023
Produced by:	Formasette
Partners:	Discovery Italy

1. 1.1. The Ice Tomb

WWI: Italy vs Germany/Austria – In this episode, Gibba wants to investigate the heroic deeds of Lieutenant Fusetti, who with a handful of brave men managed to capture the Sass de Stria from the Austrians in the First World War. From the pasture to the base of the mountain, Gibba climbs the mountain and then scales the via ferrata leading to the summit. Here, he explores the labyrinth of tunnels and caves built during the war to reconstruct the clash with the Austrians and identify Fusetti's burial place.

2. 1.2. Operation Shingle

WWII: UK and USA vs Germany – World War II saw the Anglo-Americans triumph on almost all fronts. Yet, there were cases where the formidable Allied war machine had to endure setbacks. This is the case of the infamous Operation Shingle, the Anzio landing. Historically, the responsibility for this defeat is attributed to the American General Clark, who led the mission. However, Gibba is not convinced and through his investigation, he aims to shed light on what really happened. Starting from the Anzio sea, he follows the footsteps of the Allies to the marsh in the Foglino forest, searching for artifacts that could definitively clarify what occurred there in the Second World War.

3. 1.3. The Bologna Brigade

WWI: Italy vs Germany/Austria – Gibba is on the trail of the Bologna Brigade, the heroic group of men who single-handedly managed to halt the Austro-German advance after Caporetto, giving the rest of the Italian army time to organize defenses along the Piave. To do this, he ascends Mount Ragogna in search of Italian trenches. From there, thanks to his findings, he reconstructs the actions of the Italian soldiers descending from the summit of the mountain to the riverbed, thus identifying the point where the final clash occurred.

4. 1.4. The Nazi Gold

WWII: Italian Partisans vs Germany – The Nazis are infamous for looting gold and artworks from conquered countries, abroad as well as in Italy. Gibba is determined to find the treasure stolen by the Nazis in the final days of the war from the Palazzo del Consiglio of the Republic of Salò. To do this, he must reconstruct, thanks to his findings, the movements of the German convoy and determine its fate, to understand what became of the treasure and perhaps recover it.

5. 1.5. The Gothic Line

WWII: USA vs Germany – The Battle of Giogo Pass, where the Allies broke through the formidable Nazi defensive line, the Gothic Line, was one of the bloodiest clashes of the entire Second World War. Gibba wants to reconstruct the actions of the 363rd American Infantry Regiment engaged in the conquest of Monticelli and, thanks to his findings, identify the Nazi command bunker in the area. To do this, he must ascend a mountain still infested with anti-personnel mines, unexploded bombs, and forbidding natural passages until reaching enemy lines and then search for the German command center.

6. 2.1. The Po Retreat

WWII: USA vs Germany – Gibba is on the Po River to reconstruct the desperate retreat of a very young German grenadier and his squad in the aftermath of the Allied breakthrough of the Gothic Line in April '45.

7. 2.2. The Black Devils

WWII: Canada vs Germany – In this episode, Gibba will investigate the action that saw the baptism of the First Special Service Force, the first special forces unit in history. A handful of courageous men, capable of scaling the vertical wall of Mount La Difensa to catch the Nazis by surprise and rout them.

8. 2.3. The Bold Ones On Col Moschin

WWI: Italy vs Germany/Austria – Gibba aims to reconstruct the actions of the Arditi, a unit of Italian special forces in the First World War, who, thanks to their courage and skill, managed to wrest a strategically important height from the Austrians.

9. 2.4. The Trap Of Salerno

WWII: USA and UK vs Germany – In this episode, Gibba investigates the landing of Allied troops at Salerno to understand how such a large invasion force could find itself on the verge of being driven back into the sea by Nazi troops, despite being vastly outnumbered.

10. 2.5. The French Cannons

WWI: France vs Germany/Austria – Gibba is on Mount Grappa in search of a battery of French cannons that, during the First World War, managed to halt the advance of Austro-German invaders but were never found again at the end of the war.

11. 3.1. Operation Brassard Elba

WWII: France vs Germany – Gibba lands on Elba to reconstruct the actions of the "battalion du choc," the French commando unit that liberated the island from Nazi occupation.

12. 3.2. Hill 593 Cassino ILL

WWII: Poland and USA vs Germany – In this episode, Gibba is in Cassino to investigate the fall of Hill 593, a cursed hill that slaughtered Allied soldiers in the Second World War, so much so that it was called Mount Calvary.

13. 3.3. The Mascaborni

WWI: Italy vs Germany/Austria – Gibba is in the Dolomites on the trail of the Mascaborni, a legendary group of alpine soldiers who in the First World War managed to repel the Austrians fighting among the snow-capped peaks.

14. 3.4. Hunt for Panzer 4 – Part 1: The Investigation

WWII: USA vs Germany – Gibba is in Cento, Emilia Romagna, on the trail of the Holy Grail for all recovery teams, the remains of a German Panzer IV that was supposed to have been shot down by an RAF air raid in 1944.

15. 3.5. Hunt for Panzer 4 – Part 2: The Excavation

WWII: USA vs Germany – Having identified, thanks to his investigation, the location where the Panzer IV may have been destroyed and buried, Gibba, aided by 50 recovery volunteers and 2 archaeologists, directs the excavation to reach the remains of the legendary vehicle.

16. 4.1. The Outpost of the Lost Soldiers

WWI: Italy vs Germany/Austria – In this episode, Gibba investigates the heroic deeds of the 11th Bersaglieri defending the Mauria Pass in the aftermath of the Caporetto defeat. The battle was so fierce that besides weapons, some fallen soldiers' bodies remained on the pass.

17. 4.2. The War Dump

WWII: UK and USA vs Germany – In this episode, Gibba is in the Garigliano near the German Gustav defense line to try to identify a huge war dump where it is said that a large quantity of Second World War weapons, still functional, were thrown away.

18. 4.3. The Bombs of Fort Tudaio

WWI: Italy vs Germany/Austria – Gibba explores an ancient fort from the First World War at the top of Mount Tudaio in search of a whole batch of explosive devices hidden at the end of the conflict and never found again.

19. 4.4. The Capture of Mount Marrone

WWII: Italy vs Germany – In this episode, Gibba is on the trail of the alpine troops of the "Piemonte" battalion who, in March '44, conquered the summit of Mount Marrone, defeating the Nazi soldiers. Laden with enemy-requisitioned weapons, at the end of the battle, the alpine troops decided to dispose of them by throwing them into a ravine, where they are still waiting to be recovered.

20. 4.5. The Partisan Weapons

WWII: Italy vs Germany – Gibba reconstructs the actions of the legendary partisan brigade "Sinigallia" which contributed decisively to the liberation of Florence from the Nazi-fascist troops in the hope of identifying the secret hiding place where they concealed their weapons.

21. 5.1. The Last Gamble

WWII: USA vs Germany – In this episode, Gibba is in Belgium to investigate the Battle of the Bulge, Hitler's desperate attempt to reverse the course of the conflict.

22. 5.2. The Flying Sergeant

WWI: Italy vs Germany/Austria – In this episode, Gibba intends to clarify the causes of the death of a legendary figure of the White War, Sergeant Sepp Innerknofler.

23. 5.3. The Death Armor

WWI: Italy vs Germany/Austria – Gibba is on the trail of one of the death companies, a handful of brave soldiers in World War I tasked with cutting enemy barbed wire to allow their comrades' offensive.

24. 5.4. The Green Inferno

WWII: USA vs Germany – In this episode, Gibba explores the dense Hurtgen Forest in Germany to explain one of the most terrible defeats of the US Army in World War II.

25. 5.5. The Brigand's Loot

Italian War of Independence: Italy – In this episode, Gibba is on the trail of the loot of the brigand Domenico Fuoco, a former Bourbon soldier who, in the aftermath of the Unification of Italy, organized a band of criminals dedicated to thefts and robberies.

26. 6.1. The Green Flames

WWI: Italy vs Germany/Austria – In this episode, Gibba investigates the heroic deeds of the daring alpine troops engaged in the reconquest of a key point in the strategic chessboard of World War I: Doss Alto.

27. 6.2. The Tragic Battles of the Isonzo

WWI: Italy vs Germany/Austria – Gibba is on the ancient border between the Kingdom of Italy and the Austro-Hungarian Empire, determined to understand the reasons behind the failure of 11 offensive actions undertaken by the Italians over 3 years of war.

28. 6.3. Battisti's Revenge

WWI: Italy vs Germany/Austria – In this episode, Gibba wants to reconstruct the actions of a group of daring soldiers who, towards the end of World War I, managed to avenge the capture and killing of the irredentist Cesare Battisti by the Austrian army.

29. 6.4. The Commando

WWII: UK vs Germany – In this episode, Gibba investigates the special units of Her Majesty's British forces, the Commandos, and their actions aimed at liberating Cassino from Nazi troops.

30. 6.5. The Gold of the Reichsbank

WWII: USA vs Germany – Gibba is on the hunt for an invaluable treasure: the gold reserves of the Reichsbank, over 600 million euros hidden in the final days of World War II to prevent them from falling into Soviet hands.